



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Jill Norgaard (R-18)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representative Norgaard Disappointed with Senate Democrats for Killing Bill to Expand Uses of Public School Tax Credit

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representative Jill Norgaard (R-18) today expressed disappointment with Senate Democrats for killing a bill ([HB 2218](#)) that would have given school site councils the opportunity to redistribute high balances of extracurricular funds to schools in their district that have a greater need.

The current Public School Tax Credit permits taxpayers to make contributions to public schools for specific extracurricular items and receive a reduction to their income tax liability up to \$200 for individuals and \$400 for married couples. HB 2218 would have allowed schools who have larger balances of these donations to transfer them to needier schools. The bill also would have allowed schools to use the funds for technology, equipment, and to support activities for students before and after school.

While HB 2218 passed out of the House of Representatives with bipartisan support by a vote of 39-20 and the Senate Education Committee by a vote of 6-0, it failed in the Senate Appropriations Committee on Tuesday by a vote of 4-4.

“This bill was a creative attempt to redistribute taxpayer donations to direct more resources to our schools, allowing them to use limited funds to support projects like, sun-shaded playground equipment and software programs that can be used as extracurricular activities,” said Representative Norgaard. **“I’m truly puzzled at the Democratic opposition in the Senate to a bill designed to assist needy schools.”**

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